

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 NIC-01 IO-14

EB-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 SAM-01 EURE-00 /135 W

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O P 311802Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4133

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12134

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, GW, GE, US, UK, UR, FR

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON FEA ACCESS DIFFICULTIES

REF: STATE 166148

1. AT BONN GROUP MEETING JULY 31, US REP MADE PRESENTATION ON BASIS PARA 1 REFTEL AND DISTRIBUTED DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED TEXT. WE ALSO MADE POINT THAT WE WOULD WISH TO AWAIT RESULTS OF JULY 26 BILATERAL APPROACH TO SOVIETS (STATE 166149) BEFORE DECIDING ON TRIPARTITE APPROACH.

2. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, US, FRENCH, AND FRG REPS STRONGLY CONTESTED PREMISE ON WHICH DEPARTMENT TEXT APPARENTLY BASED, NAMELY WISH TO AVOID ENGAGING GDR AND DIRECTING THE THRUST OF THE COMPLAINTS AT SOVIETS. THEY CONTENDED IT WAS BECAUSE GDR LACKS COMPETENCE IN QUADRIpartite MATTERS THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO COUNTER
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THEIR CLAIM TO DECIDE WHETHER AN ACTION WAS COMPATIBLE

WITH PART II (B) OF THE QUADRIpartie AGREEMENT AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, TO TAKE ENFORCEMENT ACTION IT MIGHT DEEM NECESSARY. IN VIEW OF CONCEPTUAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND UK-FRENCH-FRG APPROACHES, DETAILED DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT TEXT WAS LEFT IN ABEYANCE. OTHER REPS URGED THAT DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER APPROACH TO REFLECT THINKING UNDERLYING PREVIOUSLY AGREED BONN GROUP AD REF TEXT. THEY ALSO FELT IT NECESSARY FOR THREE POWERS TO EXPRESSLY DEFEND LEGALITY OF FEA.

3. OTHER REPS WERE INTERESTED IN REFERENCE TO FQP IN OUR PROPOSED TEXT. THE REFERENCE COULD BE INTERPRETED AS A SIGNAL TO THE SOVIETS THAT WE WISHED TO TAKE THEM UP ON THE HINT IN THEIR JULY 20 STATEMENT CONCERNING POSSIBLE QUADRIpartite CONSULTATIONS. WAS THIS OUR INTENTION, BEARING IN MIND THAT IN THE PAST WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY TAKEN A NEGATIVE STANCE TOWARD IDEA OF QUADRIpartite CONSULTATIONS?

4. UK, FRENCH, AND FRG REPS STRESSED THE URGENCY WITH WHICH THEIR GOVERNMENTS CONSIDER NEED TO REGISTER TRIPARTITE VIEWS STRONGLY AND FORMALLY WITH SOVIETS BY WAY OF EARLY DEMARCHE. THEY WERE HIGHLY INTERESTED IN OUR JULY 26 APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS AND ASKED FOR A FULL ACCOUNT, INCLUDING SOVIET REACTIONS. WITHOUT SUCH INFORMATION, IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO JUDGE DEPARTMENT'S APPROACH TO PROBLEM. THE JULY 26 DEMARCHE HAD A BEARING ON WHAT TRIPARTITE ACTION WAS INDICATED AND POSSIBLY ALSO ON THE TEXT OF AN EVENTUAL DEMARCHE. COMMENT: THE BRITISH AND FRENCH HERE HAVE EVIDENTLY NOT BEEN INFORMED ABOUT OUR JULY 26 APPROACH TO SOVIETS BY THEIR EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON. END COMMENT

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT WE ARE GOING TO HAVE ROUGH GOING TRYING TO SELL OUR PROPOSED TEXT. OTHER BONN GROUP REPS CONSIDER NEED TO REBUT GDR CLAIMS AS CENTRAL POINT OF PROPOSED EXERCISE. WE WILL ALSO COME UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO PUSH FORWARD WITH DEMARCHE UNLESS WE CAN GIVE REASONS
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WHY WE SHOULD DELAY. END COMMENT

6. LATE ITEM. GERMANS HAVE INFORMED US THAT GDR HAS RESPONDED TO THEIR REQUEST FOR TRANSIT COMMISSION MEETING, PROPOSING AUGUST 6 DATE, IN EAST BERLIN. WHILE NO FORMAL DECISION TAKEN YET ON REPLY, AND FRG WOULD PREFER EARLIER DATE, INDICATIONS ARE THAT GDR PROPOSAL WILL BE ACCEPTED.

HILLENBRAND

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